

STATISTICAL AND FINANCIAL REPORT — 1955

For the Information of the Members of the Church

The First Presidency issues the following statement of items concerning the condition and operation of the Church for the year 1955. The statement will include two sections: First, Statistical Information; and Second, Financial Data.

I. STATISTICAL INFORMATION

Number of Stakes of Zion, at end of 1955	224
An increase of 5 during the year	
Number of Wards	1835
Number of Independent Branches	247
Total Wards and Independent Branches, at end of year.....	2082
An increase of 89 during the year	
Number of Full-Time Missions at end of year.....	44
An increase of 2 during the year	
Church Membership, December 31, 1955:	
In the Stakes	1,126,265
In the Missions	231,009
Total Membership	1,357,274
An increase of 55,034 during the year	
Church Growth during 1955:	
Children blessed in Stakes and Missions.....	48,421
Children baptized in Stakes and Missions.....	32,807
Converts baptized in Stakes and Missions	21,669
An increase in 3,096 in convert baptisms over the preceding year	
Social Statistics:	
(of membership in the Stakes, 1955)	
Birth rate per thousand	37.64
Marriage rate per thousand	8.64
Death rate per thousand	5.53
Priesthood:	
Members holding the Aaronic Priesthood December 31, 1955:	
Deacons	62,963
Teachers	46,942
Priests	59,906
Total number holding Aaronic Priesthood.....	169,811
An increase of 8,189 during the year	
Members holding the Melchizedek Priesthood December 31, 1955:	
Elders	127,438
Seventies	21,030
High Priests	37,782
Total number holding Melchizedek Priesthood.....	186,250
An increase of 7,103 during the year	
Grand total, members holding Aaronic or Melchizedek Priesthood	356,061
Auxiliary Organizations:	
Relief Society (membership)	163,513
An increase of 7,213 over the preceding year	
Deseret Sunday School Union (Average Attendance in the Stakes).....	388,433
An increase of 20,185 over the preceding year	
Young Men's Mutual Improvement Association (enrollment).....	158,619
An increase of 19,133 over the preceding year	
Young Women's Mutual Improvement Association (enrollment).....	151,709
An increase of 16,447 over the preceding year	
Primary (Children and Adults Participating)	255,061
An increase of 5,746 over the preceding year	

Friday, April 6

First Day

Welfare Plan

Number of persons assisted from Bishops' Storehouses in 1955	60,165
Number placed in remunerative employment during year.....	8,265
Man-days of work donated to the Welfare Plan during year.....	128,212
Unit-days of equipment use donated	13,701

Genealogical Society:

Number of names cleared and forwarded to the Temples in 1955 for ordinances to be performed	687,474
Genealogical records microfilmed in 9 countries during the year were equivalent to 95,570 printed volumes of approximately 300 pages per volume.	

Temples:

Number of ordinances performed during 1955 in the 9 operating temples:	
For the living	32,226
For the dead	2,453,268
Total number of ordinances	2,485,494
An increase of 133,104 over the preceding year	

Missionaries:

Number of missionaries who at the close of 1955 were laboring in the full-time missions	4,687
An increase of 968 during the year	
Number engaged in missionary work in the Stakes at the close of the year	6,565
Total number of missionaries at end of year.....	11,252
Number of missionaries who received training in the Missionary Home during 1955	2,410
An increase of 388 over the preceding year	

Church School System:

Total cumulative enrollments in the unified Church School System during the year 1955-56	64,467
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II. EXPENDITURES OF THE CHURCH IN 1955

This section will show for each of the major fields of activity, *first*, expenditures of CHURCH GENERAL FUNDS, these funds having been received principally from the tithes of the Church, and *second*, expenditures of other contributions of the people to stakes, wards, missions, schools, and other agencies of the Church.

Missions and Missionary Work:

For buildings, sites, furnishings and building repairs in the Missions (including meeting houses, mission headquarters, and mission school buildings):	
From Church General Funds	\$4,750,248
From Other Contributions	999,091
For operating expenses of the missions, including expenses of mission branches; for publicity work; for expenses of bureaus of information; for operation of certain schools in foreign missions and for general expenses of the Missionary Program:	
From Church General Funds	2,321,809
From Other Contributions	778,549
Total Expenditures for Missions and Missionary Work.....	8,849,697

(Note: In addition to the foregoing expenditures of the Church for Missionary Work, it is estimated that members and friends paid out over \$3,200,000 for the support of full-time missionaries during the year, bringing total expenditures by the Church and its people for all mission purposes to more than \$12,000,000 in 1955, not including value of the time given by the missionaries themselves.)

Stakes and Wards:

For buildings, sites, repairs and furnishings:	
From Church General Funds	8,421,288
From Other Contributions	6,992,516

For general operating expenses:	
From Church General Funds	3,833,608
From Other Contributions	4,961,310
Total Expenditures for Wards and Stakes.....	24,208,722
<i>Temples:</i>	
For new construction, improvements, repairs, and equipment:	
From Church General Funds	2,093,272
From Other Contributions	322,592
For operation of Temples:	
From Church General Funds	489,992
From Other Contributions	15,650
Total Expenditures for Temples.....	2,921,506
<i>Educational Institutions:</i>	
For land, buildings, repairs, and equipment:	
From Church General Funds	2,667,563
From Other Contributions	375,862
For general operating expenses of Brigham Young University, Ricks College, Juarez Stake Schools, the institutes of religion, and the seminaries, and of the Church College of Hawaii:	
From Church General Funds	4,650,849
From Other Contributions	0
Total Expenditures for the Church School System.....	7,694,274
<i>Welfare:</i>	
For erection, purchase, remodeling, and repair of Bishops' Storehouses and other general welfare properties, and for equipment:	
From Church General Funds	279,670
From Other Contributions	2,252,113
For the care of the needy (rents, fuel, hospitalization, burials, etc.); for operating expenses of Bishops' Storehouses; for purchase of commodities and containers and for transportation; and for General Church Welfare Committee administrative expenses:	
From Church General Funds	952,751
From Other Contributions	2,574,827
Total Expenditures for Welfare (not including value of donated labor)	6,059,361
<i>Buildings and Grounds:</i>	
For construction, improvement, repair and equipping of buildings not included under other headings:	
From Church General Funds	533,328
From Other Contributions	387,323
For operating expenses of general buildings and grounds:	
From Church General Funds	374,608
From Other Contributions	0
Total Expenditures for Buildings and Grounds not included elsewhere	1,295,259
<i>Genealogical Society:</i>	
For operating expenses, and for the obtaining of records and research materials:	
From Church General Funds	1,091,944
From Other Contributions	0
<i>Auxiliary Activities:</i>	
For expenses of the Auxiliary General Boards and of the Primary Children's Hospital:	
From Church General Funds	0
From Other Contributions	486,832
<i>Administrative Expenses:</i>	
For personnel and other costs of operating the general administrative offices of the Church; for living allowances and traveling expenses of the General Authorities; and for current expenses of special committees:	
From Church General Funds	1,620,198
From Other Contributions	0

Friday, April 6

First Day

All Other Activities and Expenses:

For taxes, insurance, contributions to civic and miscellaneous organizations and causes, and for other purposes:

From Church General Funds	573,275
From Other Contributions	0
Grand Total, Budget Expenditures from Church General Funds.....	34,654,403
Grand Total, Expenditures From Other Contributions.....	20,146,665
Grand Total, Expenditures Both From Budgeted Church General Funds and From Other Contributions	\$54,801,068

Recapitulation of Building Project Expenditures:

The foregoing table includes the following amounts spent for construction, purchase, furnishing, and repair of buildings, and for purchases of land and equipment:

From Church General Funds	18,745,369
From Other Funds Contributed by the People	11,329,497
Add: Amounts loaned by the Church to Hospitals and Church Schools for capital improvement projects, <i>not included</i> in the foregoing table	1,648,401
Grand Total of Building Project Outlays in 1955.....	\$31,723,267

President David O. McKay:

Elder Joseph Anderson has just read the statistical and financial data relating to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Elder Orval Adams will now read the report of the Church Auditing Committee, following which President J. Reuben Clark, Jr., will present the General Authorities, General Officers, and General Auxiliary Officers of the Church for the sustaining vote of this General Conference.

Elder Orval W. Adams of the Church Auditing Committee read the following report:

Salt Lake City, Utah
April 4, 1956

President David O. McKay
and Counselors,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Dear Brethren:

We, your Committee, have reviewed the income and expenditures of the Corporation of the President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for

the year ending December 31, 1955. The expenditures are well within the income. We are advised that the Church is free from debt.

Respectfully submitted,

ORVAL W. ADAMS
GEORGE S. SPENCER
HAROLD H. BENNETT
Church Auditing Committee

President J. Reuben Clark, Jr.

My brothers and sisters, I am asked to present for your sustaining vote, the various officers designated in general terms by President McKay. As you know, you are in certain senses a constituent assembly and your vote is the vote of the Church and in your voting therefore, you represent not only yourselves, but all the members of the Church who are not here. This vote testifies that you pledge your support to the officers who shall be presented to you and for whom you vote affirmatively, and as I take it, is a covenant with the Lord that you will so sustain, loyally, those for whom you vote.

GENERAL AUTHORITIES OF THE CHURCH**THE FIRST PRESIDENCY**

David O. McKay, Prophet, Seer and Revelator, and President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Stephen L. Richards, First Counselor in the First Presidency.

J. Reuben Clark, Jr., Second Counselor in the First Presidency.